***“****Your Salvation is a free gift from God,*

*but your grade is based on works only****.”***

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**Room: A206**

**Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to the marine environment, including near shore, benthic & open ocean ecosystems and the organisms that exist in them. We will discuss biotic and abiotic factors that affect these marine organisms. We will also cover the myriad of design features that aid and equip the organisms for survival. Laboratory exercises and field trips will be a crucial part of this course. Participation is a requirement to pass.

**Materials List:** Marine Science ISBN: 9780021422654

Marine Science lab manual ISBN: 9780021422692

**Grading Polices**

Tests will typically be given after each chapter. Lab practical tests (practicals) will sometimes accompany lecture tests when applicable. All tests may be comprehensive in that they will build on the foundation of previous material. Practicals will cover material learned during laboratory exercises.

A short quiz (5 – 10 questions) will be given periodically throughout the chapter covering the material from the lecture & discussion. The purpose of quizzes is to ensure students’ attentiveness in class & to help the students acclimate themselves to how test questions will be worded. Quizzes will be returned & students may use them to study for tests since test material reflect quiz questions. The lowest two quiz grades will be dropped at the end of each semester.

**All assignments are due at the beginning of class** and subject to the 5% per class deduction for late submissions.

The Student's grade will be determined on the basis of:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Tests/Lab Practicals/Aquarium care | 50 % |
| Quizzes | 30 % |
| Lab exercises/Participation  Homework | 15 %  05 % |
| **Total Points** | **100 %** |

The following grading scale will be used:

A = 90 - 100% B = 80 - 89% C = 70 - 79% D = 60 - 69% F = 0 - 59%

**Attendance & Participation Policies:**

Students are expected to attend all lectures and laboratories, and this is in your best academic interest. Students who will be a part of SFCA’s Blended Learning program will have videos and/or recordings and assignments posted in Canvas by 8 AM the day following instruction. Any work assigned for that day will be due by midnight. Work turned in after midnight will be considered late and receive point deductions. Tests are based on lectures derived from the textbook and sometimes supplemented with outside material. Students who have not been exposed to lecture material will not perform well on tests. **For specifics on the absence policies, refer to the SFCA handbook.** Laboratory participation is essential to success. Students cannot make up laboratories due to the nature of the extensive preparation which must be done for each lab. Labs will be recorded for students in SFCA’s Blended Learning program and any lab writeups will be modified.

**Dress Code:**

SFCA dress codes must be followed at all times during lecture. Uniform polos may be taken off (only if an undershirt is being worn) during labs so as not to ruin the uniform shirt w/ dyes, chemicals, etc. The student MUST be in full uniform upon leaving the classroom. Participating in a lab is no excuse for being out of uniform outside my class. If you do not wish to remove your uniform shirt or don’t have an appropriate undershirt, lab aprons will be made available. You may also bring a large tee-shirt to put on over your uniform as well.

**Classroom Policies:**

It is expected that every student will conduct himself in an orderly, courteous manner at all times with prompt and respectful obedience to all school personnel, following all adult direction without comment. If a student questions a teacher’s decision, he/she should speak to the teacher privately after class. At that time, he/she should respectfully explain the situation and wait for the teacher’s response.

It is expected that every student will respect the feelings and rights of others. This includes students, teachers and visitors. It is expected that every student will conduct himself in an honest manner, avoiding such actions as lying, stealing and cheating. It is expected that every student will be on time to each class and be prepared with a proper mental attitude and all their necessary materials, books and assigned work. It is expected that every student understands that the teacher’s desk, computer, and other personal belongings and work area is personal property and will be treated as such. It is expected that every student will remain in compliance with the classroom teacher’s rules, policies and procedures. Labs, tests, etc. that are missed because of such dismissals cannot be made up.

All high school students are required to have a ***fully charged***, ***fully functioning*** laptop in class each day. Cell phones are not acceptable devices. If a student’s tablet dies, the student ***may not*** use their cell phone for class activities. This will result in a zero for participation. Any inappropriate use (playing games, internet, etc.) will result in not being allowed to use the technology for the rest of the semester. Misuse of iPods, calculators, etc. will not be tolerated either. Cell phones are to be placed in a designated storage location during class time and cannot be used unless the instructor gives permission. Students who engage in misconduct with technological devices will be subject to penalties as indicated in the SFCA Parent/Student Handbook. **POSSESING A CELL PHONE OR ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE DURING A TEST, LAB PRACTICAL OR EXAM IS CONSIDERED CHEATING AND WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC ZERO.**

**Lab Exercises:**

Laboratory participation is essential to success. Students cannot make up laboratories due to the nature of the extensive preparation which has to be done for each lab. **Lab reports will not be accepted from students who have unexcused absences for those labs.** Participation is a large portion of the grade and points may be deducted if one partner is the only one doing the work. Properly cleaning up your lab station as well as proper use of lab equipment will affect your grade.

**Aquarium care:**

In lieu of a research paper or research project, the students’ research grade will come from the design, construction, and/or routine care of the multiple aquaria both in my classroom and around campus. Students will be given access to a shared Google Sheets document. They will log their maintenance time in this document. Their research grade will be calculated based on this shared document.

**Parent & Student Syllabus Contract (due Monday, August 16th)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read the syllabus and understand what is expected of me as a student.

print name

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read the syllabus and understand what is expected of my child.

print name

Parent's Signature 1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature 2 (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_